

GOV'T OFFICIALS BEHIND NPA-CPP

by RENE DE GUZMAN
Correspondent

The Pacific

Times

VOL. V, NO. 5, TANDAG, SURIGAO DEL SUR • OCT. 15-21, 1984 — P2.00 PER COPY

US network has copy!

Agrava report out; AFP link confirmed

NEW YORK (AP) — The Agrava commission has rejected the government version of the assassination of Benigno Aquino Jr. and has concluded the opposition leader was killed by soldiers as part of a conspiracy, according to the US television network, NBC.

NBC said it had a copy of a draft of the report.

The report names as the most likely killer two of the soldiers escorting Aquino from the plane that returned him

last year from self-exile in the United States, the network said. The report also names 17 others, 16 soldiers and one low-level government worker, as members of the conspiracy. No names were given by NBC.

NBC quoted the draft report as saying the commission found no evidence against President Marcos or his wife, Imelda, and did not name them as part of the conspiracy. Marcos selected the fact-finding board a year ago and said he would follow its findings.

The government has maintained that Aquino, 50, was killed by Rolando Galman, who it says was a communist agent. Galman was shot dead moments after Aquino died.

Release of the commission's report has been expected. Several news reports in recent months have said the commission will accuse the military in the August 21, 1983, slaying.

Bruce MacDonell, Asian bureau chief for NBC, said the document obtained by the net-

(Turn to page 8)

Some top local government officials are behind the recent activities of the New People's Army (NPA).

Thus declared Lt. Col. Rodolfo Gumtang, Surigao del Sur provincial commander, in an interview with The PACIFIC TIMES Wednesday.

Gumtang, who declined to name names, was referring to the latest incidents in Surigao del Sur wherein the military outpost at Barangay Mabalin in Cortes town was raided and burned by the rebels and a reinforcement team was ambushed at Barangay Balladon

(Turn to page 8)

Ilocos mayor is NPA chief

LAOAG CITY — A municipal mayor in Ilocos Norte province sent shock waves throughout Marcos Country recently when he surrendered to Ilocos Norte vice governor Roque Abellan Jr. and confessed his links with underground movement. Mayor Lorenzo Santos of Dumalneg town near the Ilocos Norte — Kalinga Apayao boundary admitted his being a ranking leader of the New People's Army.

(Turn to page 8)

First woman walks in space

Oct. 12. (PNA/Reuter) — Astronaut Kathryn Sullivan became the first American woman to "walk" in space today when she and crewmate David Leestma spent more than three hours walking outside the space shuttle Challenger.

Sullivan is the second woman to venture into space. Leestma who tested new satellite refuelling equipment, latched down a dish antenna whose motors had been disabled earlier in their eight-day mission.

The two, wearing bulky spacesuits with big life-support

backpacks, accomplished everything without any difficulty.

The only problem they encountered was at the end of their "spacewalk" when Leestma, joining Sullivan back inside Challenger's airlock, accidentally knocked a safety cap off a valve in the airlock's hatch which started floating away.

Mission Commander Robert Crippen, watching from a rear window of Challenger's flight deck, kept his eye on the fist-size cap as it drifted in Challenger's cargo hold. — PNA/Reuter)

Survivor of two typhoons returns home

The lone survivor among three Taiwanese brothers whose fishing boat capsized off Surigao del Sur at the height of typhoon "Niting" last month returned to Taiwan recently with the help of the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC).

The PNRC said Ling Chuan was rescued by Perfecto Dua, a fisherman from Barangay Bitagan, Cagwait, Surigao del Sur. Dua took care of him for

(Turn to page 8)

Illegal search hit

3,000 marchers protest military raid on palace

by LUCILO TRINIDAD

TANDAG — Another massive march was staged last October 5 by some 3,000 participants composed of Saint Theresa College faculty members, students religious and civic leaders to protest against the military raid on the house of Bishop Ireneo Amantillo and Diocesan Pastoral center at Mabua, this

town last Oct. 3 evening.

The protest-march headed by Father Efren Rivas Jr., director of STC, Father Rock, Father Whille Sanchez of Tandag parish, Sister Emelle Acosta and several nuns including the leader of CWL and the local Knights of Columbus con-

(Turn to page 8)

Tandag bishop shocked

TANDAG, Surigao del Sur — "I really could not believe it!" This was how Bishop Ireneo Amantillo reacted to the military raid on his house and the Diocesan Pastoral Center (DPC) on the night of Oct. 3 in this town.

"If they attack the bishop, expecting to silence the priests, I think they are barking up the wrong tree", added the

(Turn to page 8)

NEWS INSIDE

FARMER SLAIN BY OWN BROTHER —P2

CALAMITY LOAN FOR SUR OK'D MPWH MOVE —P2

OPPOSED DENY CLAIM ON —P2

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE —P2

AROUND THE NATION

Mayor belies claim on civil disobedience

Mayor Alfeo Perez of San Miguel, Surigao del Sur denied report published in this paper few weeks ago that the people of San Miguel refused to pay their taxes to the government as an act of civil disobedience.

In an interview, Perez said that there is no group advocating civil disobedience in his town.

"It is true that many taxpayers in my town failed to pay their taxes because of hardship caused by less yield of production and by the peace and order situation of the province, but I never said that their non payment was an act of protest against the government."

Perez also clarified a certain point in the same report which said that peace and order problem in his town is grave.

"It is not as serious as reported," Perez said. "In fact there is no single soldier killed in an encounter with the NPA right in the poblacion. It is however, true

that some NPA men were killed during the military operations in certain areas here," he said.

Perez also denied the report that military abuses are rampant in his municipality.

He said that except for some isolated cases committed by certain undisciplined members belonging to the CHDF, abuses by other groups of military men are still to be heard.

Regarding the depressed economic condition in his municipality, Mayor Perez explained that this happened because of several factors, one of which is the damaged bridge linking the town and other parts of the municipality.

This renders more difficult to the people particularly in this town to transport their crops and other products from the barangays.

Perez is however optimistic that with the repair of the bridge thru the help of the Ministry of Public Works and Highways and the National Irrigation Administration, better life in this municipality is expected. (Rene de Guzman)

2 forest officers for every town

TANDAG — District Forester Reynaldo R. Villafuerte and and Forester Andres S. Magno of the Bureau of Forest Development in Tandag told to the Pacific Times the BFD has appointed two permanent Forest Officer in every town that falls within their district. These Forest officers are assigned to attend to the forestry problems of the people in their respective jurisdiction.

The Forestry boss said the Bureau of Forest Development will start anytime this month, a series of forestry education seminar in various towns and barangays of this province.

The purpose, according to Villafuerte, is to arouse awareness among the inhabitants of the importance of protecting the forest from destruction.

The job of this forest officer, he explained would also include safeguarding forest resources from illegal smugglers, illegal kaingineros and other people who could cause

destruction to the forest.

Dist. Forester Villafuerte also enumerated the priority projects implemented by their office such as the establishment of the Municipal tree parks and barangay tree parks.

As regards the tree planting program, the BFD disclosed that the previous sites for tree planting yielded bad result due to lack of support and cooperation from the planters.

This failure in tree planting program should not be blamed on us Villafuerte said, since we are only a lead agency and therefore needs necessary supports.

The Dist. Forester explained that it is not anymore their duty to take care of the tree planted along the highway because this is already under the jurisdiction of the MPWH which has an allocated funds for the purpose on the maintenance of these plants.

Villafuerte also said that to avoid illegal cutting of logs or smuggling in different mu-

TANDAG Applications for calamity loan for Surigao del Sur applicants can now be processed by the GSIS in Cebu City regional office.

Presidential proclamation Nos. 2374 and 2376 would automatically qualify Surigao del Sur in the list of provinces entitled to a five month calamity loan.

Earlier Surigao del Sur calamity loan applicants who filed their applications at the GSIS regional office in Cebu City were told by the GSIS authorities that except for 3-month salary loan, their 5-month calamity loan applications could not be acted upon since Surigao del Sur was not included in the provinces proclaimed by President Marcos as a calamity area.

The GSIS inaction had disappointed several calamity loan applicants in this province who went

personally to Cebu City in the hope that they could get their loan on time.

Atty. Emilio Gelli, Dist. Atty. of the Citizen Legal Assistance Office in a statement published in Cebu-based newspaper, The Republic News, deplored the none inclusion of the province by Malacanang as calamity area during his visit at the GSIS office.

"I am not a calamity loan applicant, but I myself am also disappointed over the non-inclusion of Surigao del Sur in the list of the Province proclaimed by Pres. Marcos as a calamity area," he said.

He said that Surigao del Sur like Bohol, Cebu, and other provinces also suffered a huge loss of P33-million from typhoon Nitang as shown in the itemized reports from different municipalities

which was published in the local newspaper, The Pacific Times, and yet it seems Malacanang has overlooked Surigao del Sur by not including as one of those proclaimed as a calamity stricken area.

Atty. Gelli's claim that Surigao del Sur deserves to be entitled to calamity loan being another typhoon ravaged area is backed up by a resolution from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in this prov. submitted earlier to Pres. Marcos requesting him to declare the province in state of calamity, having suffered huge losses on crops, coconut trees, and other properties, giving hardship to the life of the inhabitants.

The inclusion of Surigao del Sur as a calamity area by Malacanang, Observers said, was expedited thru the representation of Gov. Murillo and assemblyman Higinio C. Laguno Jr.

Return of funds to MPWH opposed

by RENE DE GUZMAN

TANDAG, Surigao del Sur—SP Member Alexander T. Pimentel, president of the Federation of Association of Barangay Captains (FABC) in Surigao del Sur, said that, FABC has objected to the move by the national government to return the administration of barangay road maintenance fund from the local government unit to the Ministry of Public Works and Highways where it originally belonged before it was transferred some years ago to the local unit.

Pimentel was referring to the FABC action during the session at the office of the Ministry of Local Government. He said that the reasons for their objection are contained in a resolution passed by the members of the FABC.

The resolution bared the following reasons for objections: first, barangay road maintenance fund while still under the administration of MPWH was used only for per diems of engineers supervising the road projects in the barangays whereas if it is handled by the barangay officials, this fund would not be used for per diems but for the intended purpose. Second, if under MPWH, the barangay official would be given added burden in going to and from the DPWH for information regarding the kind of project the barangay would pursue. Under the local government unit, it

is easier to accomplish papers with the local government unit and treasurer's office. Third, under MPWH the funds could possibly spent for contract, whereas under the local gov't unit, it could be used to hire and help people who are seeking for employment. Aside from this, it could also help increase tax collection in the municipality for the reason that if the local residents could be employed these people where the maintenance project is located could easily pay for their taxes since their wage could be deducted by the treasurer.

Pimentel said that based on this reason, the barangay road maintenance fund deserves to be retained under the control of the local gov't unit to hasten the implementation of the project in the municipality. Aside from this resolution, Pimentel said, the FABC has also indorsed another resolution to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan requesting 60,000.00 pesos for the completion of FABC building in Tandag. (RENE DE GUZMAN)

Farmer slain by own brood

A 27-year-old farmer was shot dead Sunday by his brother in Barangay Venus, Sergio Osmeña Sr., Zamboanga del Norte.

A belated PC/INP report identified the fatality as Pedro Coli-jat, single, and the alleged killer as his brother Ricardo, both residents of Venus.

Pedro sustained gunshot wounds in the head and died on the spot.

Investigation disclosed that Ricardo allegedly shot his brother after Pedro lunged at him with an 18-inch hunting knife. (PNA)

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Published weekly with main editorial and business offices at Tandag, Surigao del Sur.

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municipalities, illegal kaingin and others activities that are destructive to our forest resources, the BFD periodically reshuffle Forest guards so that they could have less chance to establish fraternization and connivance with illegal log cutters and smugglers.

Guest Editorial

In defense of our values

The pace has quickened. The lines of conflict have been drawn tauter. The dimension of the battle has been raised: from a fight for political and socio-economic reforms, the stakes have escalated. This nation could now well be in a struggle for the preservation of its soul.

Thus can one describe two events that have come to pass in the last two weeks. We refer, firstly, to the tragic demonstrations in Manila and secondly, to the dramatic entry into our soil of the so-called age of enlightenment movement.

These two events herald a disturbing and damasing metamorphosis in our community.

POLARIZATION. The violent outcome of the demonstrations in Manila — and the prospect of more to come — are signs of an increasing polarization in our society. Heretofore, the majority of the population fell in the center of the ideological spectrum. The voter turnout in the elections of May 14 confirmed this. Since this date, however, there has been a noticeable and steady drift of the political median from the center to the left of the political range.

Thus when sober men and women start to discuss — as they now do — the value of the Marxist theory of class struggle and the subtleties of the theology of liberation, this must indicate their awareness, if not necessarily their inclination — yet — for more radical political thinking. The silent, middle majority is now neither so silent nor so middle.

At the same time, the climate of siege that has enveloped the administration seems to have pushed the right-wing elements in government further into reactionism.

This tendency towards increased polarization in our community is, of course, encouraged by the hawks at both ends. These extremists see in the heightened confrontation a vindication of their thesis that reconciliation will never work: what is needed is a good old-fashioned clash of sabres that will finally determine who wields the ultimate power. Let might be right. Let ideological issues be settled in the arena of physical combat.

MYSTERIOUS. The sec-

ond major development in recent weeks is the rise to visibility of the so-called unified front movement. Little is known of this intriguing and mysterious group. However, some things are clear. First, they are obviously well-funded. Two, they are highly adept at mass marketing techniques. Three, the organization is run by intelligent technicians. Four, unlike other religious type movements, they have focused on the power centers of our society. They have dealt with the President, they have bought into the largest university in the country, and they have reportedly already started making inroads into the military. Expect that they will soon be buying into media.

The unified group has elicited widespread reaction principally because its true intentions are unknown. Do they have political motives? Their strategic moves so far seem to indicate they do. Examples abroad have shown that political ambitions are definitely not alien to such groups.

In fact, there are those who go so far as to believe there is a dangerous conspiracy between this unified group and the present temporal powers. They see in the movement's unprecedented endorsement of our political leaders a bid for political accreditation. They raise the spectre of Rasputin and the conquest of the forces of the unknown — or even of darkness.

SUSCEPTIBLE. The Philippines, is of course, perfect for the needs of this unified group. The nation is in the midst of a crisis and is therefore susceptible to outside influence. The Filipino is known to be vulnerable to spiritual hanky panky (witness the "toning" experience of a few years back). The country has a well-defined power structure that they can exploit: they need only convince one man of their beliefs and they can inherit his machinery and network. The group's dollar resources go a long way here (where else can you buy a forum like UE with 46,000 students for what was probably less than a million dollars?). In short, the geo-political situation in the Philippines is ideal for a group seeking a massive propagation of its beliefs.

(Turn to Page 6)

Interview with Jose Maria Sison

The stalemate is likely to happen

(Not long ago, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said in a speech that the Communist-led New People's Army (NPA) is expected to reach a "stalemate" vis-a-vis the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in the next three to five years. The term "strategic stalemate," ironically, came into current usage from the vocabulary of the revolutionary Left. PNF interviewed for a reaction political detainee "Joma" Sison, alleged chairman of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines at the time of his arrest in November 1977. The interview with Sison was conducted in a courtroom during a recess in a recent hearing of his subversion case and by letters through legal intermediaries.)

PNF: Philippine Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, in a recent statement, said that the NPA will reach a stalemate vis-a-vis the government's armed forces within the next three to five years. Do you agree with this view? Could you describe the characteristics of such a stalemate?

Jose Ma. Sison (JMS): Enrile's forecast is likely to happen. At the cumulative rate the NPA is gaining strength, it shall have control or influence over about 50 percent of the 1,500 municipalities in the country and will be able to easily concentrate companies and even battalions to wipe out units in most parts of the country.

Right now, the NPA can wipe out or disarm entire AFP platoons in various parts of the country. In the strategic stalemate stage, the annihilation of enemy companies or battalions in single operations or campaigns will become commonplace. There will be repeated temporary seizures of big towns, provincial capitals and small cities to wipe out or disarm AFP units.

In Metro Manila and other big cities, the fascists will be in mortal fear of the armed revolution and will tend to concentrate increasingly lar-

ger forces for immediate protection. Wide areas of the country will thus be left open to the revolutionary forces.

The split among the big comprador-lanlords will become more and more bitter and violent. The unity and strength of the broad democratic movement, both underground and aboveground, will grow rapidly as never before.

The economy will deteriorate in the areas controlled by the regime. The regime will be unprecedently corruption-ridden and will have trouble scrounging for funds and resources for its parasitic military forces.

But in widening areas of the countryside, land reform and production campaigns will be carried out by the revolutionaries. There will be an effective boycott of goods imported from enemy sources in favor of goods locally produced as well as those imported from friendly sources.

PNF: Will this stalemate occur without present conditions changing? What conditions do you see as necessary to reach it?

JMS: The revolutionary party of the proletariat (the CPP) must strengthen itself ideologically, politically and organizationally. Reaching the stalemate is not simply a matter of building the people's army and winning battles. There are comprehensive requirements.

There should be tens of thousands of cadres well versed in theory, experienced in the mass movement and other practical work, and competent in work at various territorial levels and various spheres.

There should be at least 200,000 cadres and members (of the Party) at the basic level of the branch, in about 50 percent of the 40,000 barrios, and in the mass organization of workers, peasants, fishermen, youth, women, children, cultural activists and others.

Organs of democratic power and mass organizations must exist where the Party

and the New People's Army are. The united front should develop further in both urban and rural areas and grow even in the areas still securely controlled by the regime.

Under the leadership of the proletariat, the NPA should build sufficient forces to launch military campaigns of regional and national scope. The guerilla fronts and zones will have to multiply and link up. There will have to be widespread and frequent guerilla offensives by small units as well as operations by regular mobile forces.

PNF: How do you assess the people's forces now in comparison to 1983?

JMS: The legal democratic movement is now far more developed and far stronger than it was last year. Just consider the millions of people who poured into the streets of Metro Manila and other cities on the first anniversary of the martyrdom of Ninoy Aquino, despite all the scare tactics of the Marcos regime.

Behind this massive mobilization is a year of accelerated political education and organizational work among the democratic classes, sectors, groups and individuals. What could be accomplished before in several years can now be accomplished in a matter of months.

The armed resistance has made big strides. The AFP is losing more arms in ambushes, raids and arrests conducted by both the NPA and the MNLF (Moro National Liberation Front). The government has been losing entire platoons frequently. Reports say that the guerilla fronts, and the zones under each front, have increased in number.

The number of people covered by local organs of democratic power and various types of mass organizations led by the Communist Party has risen to about seven million, according to independent sources. This is the direct mass base for the armed struggle waged

(Turn to Page 6)



Mario T. Lumanao

Tandag incident: another case of military abuse

The military top brass must look into another reported case of troop abuse, otherwise both world and national observers will condemn the military establishment as nothing but a shameless tool of an enriching regime sucking the people dry through their taxes.

Last week, heavily armed para-military and airborne troops raided the Bishop's Palace in Maabua, Tandag, Surigao del Sur and took documents. The raiders included the Diocesan Pastoral Center housing the Social Action Center, the Justice and Peace Commission and the Task Force Detainees in that town.

The government troopers quick-

ly overpowered the only person present in the Palace, Fr. Efren Rivas, director of St. Theresa College.

The military must not let this latest case of atrocity go by. Already, the military establishment of this country is besmirched with so many cases of documented violations of human rights. If there are honorable men left in the military, as well as their civilian superior, they must investigate this latest case.

The avowed aim of the military to deal with national security is valid, but the government troops must not abuse their reason for being. In the first place, they are supposed to protect the citizens,

who are paying their salaries.

They are not supposed to be like the German Gestapo of old, or the last war's Japanese Kempeitai, who would capriciously raid targets without any valid ground. If the soldiers suspected rebels among the clergy, then they must file the necessary case in court and prove their point.

The more military abuses, the more the civilians will not respect soldiers. And the more the soldiers lose the people's respect, the sooner they will lose the battle. Thus, military abuses only hasten the victory of the New People's Army. If our civilian and military leaders cannot understand this, then this country will surely become another communist state.

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Survivor

(From Page 1)

two days and then brought him to Artimco hospital in Cagwall where he was confined for five days due to physical exhaustion.

His brothers — Ang Ling Hong and Ang Ling Chong — were not as lucky as Chuan. They were drowned at sea and their bodies were never recovered.

Upon release from the hospital, Chuan was taken to Tandag by Vice Gov. Feung Pimentel, chairman of the local Red Cross, and Mrs. Rosita Pascual, Red Cross administrator.

The two arranged for his trip back home through the help of the PNRC headquarters in Manila.

Chuan and his two brothers sailed Aug. 20 towards the international waters off Batanes to fish when caught by storm Maring. Their boat drifted southward until typhoon "Nítang" caused it to sink off Surigao del Sur. (PNA)

Guest Editorial

(From Page 3)

We narrate the events of Mendiola and the unified group not only to single them out as serious concerns that must be addressed, but more generally, to dramatize the fact that events are rapidly taking place in this country that are transforming it in ways that we, as a society, are increasingly unable to understand and to handle.

MODERATION. Thus, how do we as a society handle a polarization of ideas that leaves the extreme wings of the political spectrum in control of decisions? The only structure we understand is one that sits in the center, is one where the voice of moderation and compromise are the prevailing tone. This political middle ground is fast losing its adherents.

How do we handle a situation of a dramatic invasion by a mysterious, well-funded movement, foreign in values, alien in concept as in culture, unknown in its objectives?

And there are others. The nuclear plant. Do we understand the potential danger that this project represents?

The fabric of our society is being decimated. Our old terms of reference are disappearing. We are being overrun by events that we do not recognize. What is happening to us? Let us regroup while we can.

For it is not too late. The foreign elements that have seeped into our system have still not grown to proportions that are overwhelming. There is still time to collect our thoughts and bring back our society and our values into the middle ground, into territory that we understand. We must guide our

Gov't

(From Page 1)

in the same municipality.

The constabulary official also deplored that some doctors in the province appeared to have avoided the military as in the case of the latest incidents.

"My men and I were greatly surprised why some doctors, after the incidents, had disappeared from their clinics and residences," Gumtang said. "Did their disappearance mean that they were attending to the wounded rebels somewhere?" he asked.

Gumtang warned that if these troops would not be stopped, peace and order in the already critical province would escalate further.

He vowed he would have those people arrested once their activities will be confirmed.

Meanwhile latest report from the military headquarters shows that there were 22 killed from both military and NPA groups and 23 wounded in that incidents at sitio Lubcon, Mahablin Cortes and an ambush in barangay Balibadon on the same day.

Details of report said that the PC/INP outpost in Mahablin was raided and burned by the NPA after killing CIC Apolinario Pelandas and his father, Cirilo Pelandas a civilian. The gunbattle that ensued promoted military officials to send reinforcement to the area. The reinforcement team headed by Capt. Guillermo Lara of the PHO, Capt. Lapulapu Almocera of the 413th PC company and P/Lt. Romeo Vio of the Field Force accompanied by Col. Gumtang rushed to the battle scene. However, the NPA blasted the bridge at Balibadon while the V-150 (chilmita) was crossing, sending the vehicle down.

According to report the 35-man military team engaged the NPA group of about 150 in fierce gunbattle. The enemies, it said, used high powered weapons including 3 machine gun. The firing from the rebel side came from three directions resulting to the death of Capt. Almocera, Sgt. Alden Belen, Sgt. Hermis Baradillo, C2C Marcelino Alemana and C2C Antonio Cloma. Wounded were CIC Francisco Pujol, CIC Filomeno Sarona, C2C Armando Dumlaog, C2C Sergio Romo, C2C Nilo Cana, C2C Dominador Plaza and INP/PFC Castanera.

They were airlifted to Davao

ship of state back to its historical mainstream.

MORAL MAJORITY. The time has come for the moral majority to rise. This requires an individual effort from each of us. But it also requires an effort from those sectors that have the ability to organize, to educate, to influence and to fund. We refer to the business groups, the academe, the Church, the professional military, the technocrats, the responsible Batasan members, opposition and KBL.

Ilocos

(From page 1)

Surrendering through his close friend Rafael Tenemerrito, town mayor of Pangasinan, Santos said he operated under the name de guerre "Supremo Lory" and "Supremo Santos."

Military authorities said they previously received reports that the NPA leader who answered to the name of Supremo Lory and Supremo Santos was one-eyed. Santos' being blind in one eye raised strong suspicion that he and the wanted NPA leader were one and the same person.

Santos' admission elicited various reactions in the province.

Prior to his admission Santos was known for his being a so-called Marcos loyalist. He was also an active member of the pro-administration Ilocos Norte League.

Santos' links with the NPA confirmed long-standing suspicions that dissident elements have infiltrated top level political circles in remote Ilocos Norte towns.

Military authorities, however, contend that the underground movement has not yet established a mass base in the province. They admitted though, that some barangays especially in the border towns have been infiltrated by the NPA.

3,000 marchers

(From Page 1)

vened and started marching at the STC at 3:30 in the afternoon and stopped at the closed, well-guarded gate at Camp Vicente L. Pimentel. Several placards displayed by the marchers read, "Explain this illegal search" "Supak kami sa illegal search" "Ihunong ang paghanguitos sa Simbahan."

Agrava

(From page 1)

work was a final draft approved in general by all five members of the commission. However, four commission members thought Armed Forces chief-of-staff Fabian Ver was involved, but chairwoman Corazon Agrava dissented, MacDonell said.

The report is unsigned and still subject to editing "for length and style," MacDonell said.

A staff official at the offices of the commission in Manila declined to come to the phone when called by the Associated Press on Thursday morning. A security guard said no board members or lawyers were in the office.

The New York Times reported in Thursday's editions that release of the report is being delayed by disputes among the commission members over the findings. The newspaper quoted board officials as saying the dispute centered on how high to go in identifying military officers responsible for Aquino's death.

City.

The report said the killing of 15 NPA and wounding 16 others, prompted the enemies to withdraw at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of Sept. 28 the date the raid and ambush took place.

Tandag

(From Page 1)

bishop. "This is persecuting the Catholic church or me personally."

Asked about reports that the Diocesan Pastoral Center and his residence were placed under military surveillance sometime before the raid, the 49-year-old bishop answered, "I thought it was only a rumor to scare the workers and especially me. I did not take it seriously. It would be the height of stupidity if they come to raid the pastoral center."

Fr. Efron Rivas, 33, director of St. Theresa's College here and a witness to the conduct of the raid, however, believes that the DPC where he stays, and the bishop's house "had been placed under surveillance long time ago."

Among the documents taken from the DPC were reports of military abuses as gathered in a church sponsored seminar.

On the allegation that his house gives refuge to wounded rebels, the bishop said, "I brush it aside. It is an irresponsible statement." "They just want to scare us. If they want to verify it, they can have all the time provided we are here to see it," he added.

The raid, said Fr. Rivas, was done without a search warrant and carried out by the local ICHDF and members of the Airborne team led by Captain Gustavo Atencia. Bishop Amantillo was in Bacolod at that time.

Fr. Rivas said, he heard an unusual barking of dogs at around 9:30 p.m. and saw from the DPC's window "armed men" scattered in front of the building.

Almost an hour later, he continued, he heard the first shot fired from the direction of these armed men, and this was followed immediately by footsteps rushing towards the bishop's house, about 30 meters from the DPC. The loud banging of the bishop's front door, he added, forced him to go out and confront the strangers.

Romeo Lupera, 16, the bishop's house helper, said he was roused from sleep because of the sound of the gun shot. He tiptoed toward the backdoor and saw an armed man in front of it.

and "Stop church persecution".

The leaders who wanted to see Col. Jesus Hermosa, deputy regional commander for operation, were told that the latter was in Cebu City, but Provincial Commander Rodolfo Gumtang ordered that they be allowed to enter the military compound. Soon they were ushered inside the spacious room of the tactical command post, for dialogue.

After a cordial introduction and explaining their purpose, the group aired their side of the incident that happened last Oct. 3 evening.

They condemned the method of the raid, saying it was done without search warrant in violation of the agreement between the church and the ministry of justice that the search on church or religious quarter should be conducted only with proper search warrant.

Interview

(From Page 3)

by the NPA. At the same time, the broad united front enjoys real support from tens of millions of people.

PNP: How would you assess the state of the Marcos government? Can you describe possible scenarios of change in the Philippines?

JMS: The US Marcos regime will most likely last up to at least 1987. Three more years of a puppet autocracy and intolerable economic suffering will result in an intensifying and rapidly expanding legal democratic movement and revolutionary armed resistance against the three evils of US imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism.

The United States wishes to revive a two party system controlled by rival cliques of big comprador and big landlord politicians subservient to US imperialism. This is what the US means by "strengthening democratic institutions and processes."

If Marcos gets himself re-elected again through the usual fraud and terrorism, or if he puts up a surrogate as president, the ruling system will become even more hopeless and will be overthrown by armed revolution towards 1990 or a few years after.

If the US decides to remove the Marcos clique from power through elections, it can do so by manipulating its economic and military assistance as levers for encouraging opposition to Marcos within the Kilusang Bagong Lipunang (KBL) and for pressuring Marcos himself to appoint a new defense minister in order to neutralize the despotic use of the armed forces, in the same way that Ramon Magaysay as defense secretary was used to undercut President Quirino. In this way a pro-US but anti-Marcos group can peacefully rise to power and replace the Marcos clique, from either the KBL or a legal opposition party.

I think the US would rather smoothly weaken Marcos' hold on the armed forces through a new defense minister, rather than sponsor a coup d'etat by military officers. Such a coup d'etat can only further fan the flames of armed revolution in the Philippines.

PNP: What are the chances of President Marcos winning over a significant section of the opposition through a stance of accommodation normalization?

The loud rap at the front door, he said, forced him to step back towards his room where he met his two companions, Stephen Obenza, 18 and Lida Canita, the cook, both of whom looked scared to death.

Arms raised in surrender. Fr. Rivas said, he then went out of DPC and negotiated with Captain Atencia, who had identified himself. These armed men, the priest said, were pointing their guns at him throughout their negotiation.

The captain, Fr. Rivas said, argued that this team, on patrol, was shot by two men (later the military claimed as members of the Sparrow Unit of the New People's Army) who ran towards the bishop's house.

The priest said he asked for a search warrant but "they did not have any" and he told them he "had no authority" to open the bishop's house.